

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A code distinguishing apparatus for detecting any one of a plurality of codes contained in object data of code distinguishment, each code having its characteristic value, having:

correlation calculating means for calculating a plurality of correlations indicating a correlation between each of the plurality of codes and the object data,

code distinguishing means for distinguishing which of the plurality of codes any code contained in the object data is on the basis of the plurality of calculated correlations and a plurality of sets of distinguishing data respectively set for the plurality of codes and indicating a range of values that the plurality of correlations should have, the correlations being respectively calculated from the plurality of sets of object data respectively containing the plurality of codes, and

distinguishing data altering means for altering, when a code contained in the object data has been distinguished, for altering the respective values of the plurality of sets of distinguishing data.

2. The code distinguishing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein:

the object data is transmitted by one of a plurality of communication systems, each of the plurality of codes is a unique word which takes a characteristic value matching one

of the plurality of communication systems, and the plurality of sets of distinguishing data indicate a lower limit, or an upper limit and the lower limit, of a plurality of correlations respectively calculated from the plurality of sets of object data containing the plurality of unique words respectively,

the distinguishing data altering means, when any unique word contained in the object data has been distinguished, expand a range of first sets of distinguishing data set for the distinguished unique word and narrows the range of the first sets of distinguishing data set for unique words other than the distinguished unique word to obtain a plurality of second sets of distinguishing data, and

the code distinguishing means distinguish, as a unique word contained in the object data, a unique word that gives a correlation within a range indicated by either the plurality of first sets of distinguishing data or the plurality of second sets of distinguishing data.

3. The code distinguishing apparatus according to Claim 2, further including:

receiving means for receiving the transmitted object data by one of the plurality of communication systems, and

switching means for switching over a communication system in the receiving means to a communication system matching the distinguished unique word.